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If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for publication wish to have rejected articles returned, they must in all cases send slamps for that purpose.

#### The Tunnel and the City.

Two weeks ago Mayor Van Wyck vetoed a bill looking to the possibility of private capital building the underground road It was an act in the highest degree suspiclous, the Mayor avoiding any explanation of it. Nevertheless, the Rapid Transit Commission submits without protest, and asks the Mayor to start upon the plan of construction by the city. Their petition denotes an astounding conception of the relation of public enterprises to each other.

Heretofore an impassable obstacle to the city's embarkation upon this immense and Immeasurable investment has been the constitutional limit upon the municipal debt. With the creation of Greater New York this limit is broadened to the extent, the Rapid Transit Commission maintains, that the city debt can be enlarged by the amount of the cost of the tunnel that is to say New York's increased power to improve Atself in many directions, where improvement is desired and where the city alone can act, must be monopolized to build a railroad for which there is no precedent among the city's functions and for which the natural supply of means would be private capital. Schools and Fast River bridges and countless other improvements which can be made by the city alone, and for which there can be no substitute, must give way to a transit system for which substitutes abound and which can itself be obtained in other ways.

There is not a business man in New York, or even any member of the Rapid Transit Commission, who would apply this policy to his private affairs. The pressure for the more mapid development of the city will always be greater than the city's resources can satisfy. It would be strangely unwise to concentrate them upon an underground tunnel, of which the cost, by common consent enormous, no man can foresee.

But what a remarkable condition of affairs It is when the Rapid Transit Commission abandons all effort to enlist private capital and invokes the power of Mayor VAN WYCK, whose undisputed master is Mr. RICHARD CROKER, whose chief end in turn in the pursuit of political power is, by his own statement upon the witness stand, to make money for the pockets of himself and friends

### Reina Mercedes.

More fortunate than the Infanta Maria Wereaa, which was raised at Santiago only to perish on her way North, the Reins Mercedes has safely reached Hampton Roads under our flag. Even if a survey should show the need of greater repairs on her than funds in hand allow. Congress will not besitute to order them

The Reina Mercedes is the most considerable trophy of the war in the form of captured ships, the original hope of saving the Cristobal Colon, if not others of CER VERA's squadron, having vanished. We have, It is true, about a dozen Spanish vessels besides those that were destroyed, but they are mostly small. Thus the Alvarado and Sandoval are a pair of little Clydebankbuilt 100-ton steel gunboats. Of DEWEY'S captures the sister ships Isla de Cuba and Tala de Luzon, now being fitted out at Hone Kong, are of 1.040 tons and the Don Juan de Austria of 1,152, while the Manila, of 1.900 tons, is an iron transport.

But the Reina Mercedes is a steel cruiser of 3,090 tons, or about like our Boston and Atlanta, being about 279 feet long and 42% broad. She could carry 500 or 600 tons of coal, and was said to be good once for seventeen and a half knots. Her battery included Bix 6.2-inch and two 2.7-inch Hontorias, with thirteen smaller guns and five torpedo tubes. Of course, her machinery is still in poor condition, after her stay at the bottom of Santiago harbor, but, when renaired she should be a serviceable craft. Our gunshot marks are on her, and she is a genuine trophy of Santiago, as such deserving to be treasured, retaining her original name.

## The Peace Prospects in Luzon.

The declaration by the Filipino delegates who have been conferring with the Presi dent's Commissioners at Manils, that they cannot bind their Government to any terms, may at first suggest that their errand is only one more of Agutyanno's tricks to gain time; and this impression may be increased by their request for an armistice, which, of course, was refused.

But it seems clear that there is much more in their mission than a scheme for temporizing. They may think that they have something to gain in eking out the few days that may remain before the rainy season swells the streams and turns the fields and roads to quagmires; but they know their cause is hopeless, and apparently what they are after is some assurance that if they will submit to our flag as sovereign they can count on a certain degree of autonomy, or at least a share in local government.

There is no objection, therefore, to their taking back to AGUINALDO, LUNA and the other field leaders the results of their talk with the Schurmann commission. Our terms are surrender, yet they have learned what is likely to follow surrender, and they have a copy of the plan of government which the President proposes for them until Congress acts. There is immeasurably more real freedom and genuine home rule under our flag. in any system of territorial control we have ever yet established, than under such socalled autonomy as Spain offered to Cuba and Porto Rico, or under the reforms she pledged to the Philippines. It is noted as an element of promise that the present head of Aguinalpo's Cabinet was himself the author of a scheme of local self-government to be carried out under Spanish sovereignty, so that he may appreciate the happier forecast for the Islands now. The view attributed to Gonzaga, the leader of the Filipino commission, that our plans are liberal, is still more promising.

But the real peace prospects, after all, are those that depend on the conquering march of our troops. Since they have penetrated to San Isidro; since they have practically redeemed the Rio Grande

Kobné's expedition of the Seventeenth and Ninth Infantry, along its banks, between San Isidro and San Fernando, or between LAWTON and MACARTHUR; and finally, since the Palpino Government appears to have run away as far as Tarlac, which is a long distance from San Fernando, it becomes clear that LUNA and PIO DEL PALAR have not force enough to prevent us from going wherever we please.

Of recent developments in the islands on of the most gratifying is the welcome that was given to Kobbe's expedition up the Rio Grande, indicating that many of the patives are ready for American rule. It is also said that the Filipino Commissioners were astonished at finding, after they crossed our lines, so many of their countrymen living contentedly under our flag. The consciousness that they cannot resist our arms will probably be reinforced by learning that there is nothing to fear and much to hope in yielding to them.

### The Question of Immortality.

On Sunday the Rev. Mr. Savage, a Unitarian minister of New York, gave his views of the "possible conditions of life be-yond death." They were that "we carry with us our personal consciousness and the memory of what we have been here and of the friends we have loved;" that "we shall find ourselves greeted by our friends who have gone before us;" that "the people of the other life have bodies;" that "the thinker takes with him his power to think, and that the ranges of thought there are so vast as to seem almost impossible."

Now, from what basis of fact does the Rev. Mr. Savage draw these conclusions? How does he know that there is any future What reason has he for his assumption that there is such a state of

As a Unitarian he rejects all dogma and relies on reason; but what authority for a future life is there except dogma? Immortality does not reveal itself to the simple reason. It is unknown to human science and undiscoverable and undemonstrable by it. Except in Scripture or tradition, made authoritative by religious dogma, we have no basis for anything more than a purely fanciful, poetic conception of a future life. No man, of himself, has ever been able to pry into the mystery of death. To the natural eye, when a man is dead that is the end of him. His dead body is buried away to go into noisome corruption. Only in the dogmatic assertion of the authority of a revelation from God, of a wholly supernatural communication, has anybody any ground for assuming, as the Rev. Mr. SAVAGE assumes, that the dead come to life again in another state of existence; and Mr. SAVAGE, as a Unitarian, rejects all dogma.

Coming from him, then, his sermon of last Sunday on the conditions of life beyond the grave was only a string of fancies by a mind confessedly without any attainable knowledge of the subject and without any faith in the dogma which is the only authority men have or can have for looking forward confidently to a future life as existing at all.

#### The Dreyfus Revision Case Soon to Be Decided.

According to a telegram, it is officially settled that in less than a week, that is to say, on May 29, judgment in the Dreyfus revision proceedings will be pronounced by the Court of Cassation. During the last month a remarkable change has taken place in public opinion regarding the guilt of the accused, and there is now good reason to hope that the change will be reflected in the sentence to be rendered by the supreme tribunal. The change is, to a large extent, attributed to the publication by the Figuro of the testimony submitted to the court, a publication which has, practically, placed the Judges themselves on trial before the fair-minded part of the French people. There are general and special reasons

tion in the revision case from the criminal section of the Court of Cassation to the three sections which collectively form the supreme tribunal was the outcome of a deliberate purpose on the part of the antirevisionists and of the Dupuy Ministry to secure a decision adverse to the appeal presented by Mme. DREYFUS. The impression had become current that the criminal sec tion, to which the matter was originally committed, had become convinced by its in restigations not only that the trial of DREYFUS by court-martial had been, as a matter of law, improperly conducted, but also that, as a matter of fact, the accused officer was innocent of the crime of which he had been convicted. The impression was, of course, confirmed by the resignation of M. QUESNAY DE BEAUREPAIRE, a member of the Court of Cassation and a pronounced anti-revisionist for it was argued that he would not have resigned had he not foreseen a decision counter to his personal views. The reasons assigned by DE BEAU-REPAIRE for deeming his colleagues of the criminal section biassed in favor of the accused were pronounced frivolous both by the Court of Cassation and by the Committee of the Chamber of Deputies to which the accusation was referred. Nevertheless, Premier DUPUY carried through both Chambers a bill transferring the revision proeedings from the criminal section of the high court to the three sections sitting as a united body. This transaction, which cast an unmerited alur on the criminal section, could, on the face of it, have no motive except a belief that a majority of the three sections sitting together would be prepos-

sessed against revision. This inference was corroborated by the following particular circumstances: The committee to which the Brisson Cabinet had submitted the preliminary question whether there were prima facie grounds for inviting a revision of the Dreyfus case by the Court of Cassation included three members of that tribunal. These three Judges had been selected from the civil section of the court for the express reason that, in the event of revision being recommended, the investigation would be made by the criminal section, and it would be obviously improper that any members of that section should have expressed opinions on the case in a preliminary proceeding. As a matter of fact, the three judicial members of the committee appointed by the Brisson Cabinet decided that there was no ground for a revision, but, as the other three members of the committee took an opposite view, M. Brisson held himself at still unsettled, refuse to forswear their aliberty to direct the criminal section of the court to begin an inquiry, When, therefore, his successor, Premier Dupuy, carried through the bill transferring there- to become citizens of a State which may at vision proceedings from the criminal section to the three sections sitting together, he violated a fundamental principle of

judicial ethics, for he knew that the civil

had already expressed opinions against revision. The fact that such a deflance of equitable precedent could be sanctioned in the teeth of vehement protest by both houses of the French Parliament and by the preponderant opinion of a civilized people, was regarded by most enlookers as proof that DREYFUS was doomed.

Absolutely nothing has since occurred to

modify the situation above outlined and to

dispel the misgivings thereon, except the sudden interposition of the mighty engine of publicity. The Figure, which hitherto had pursued a vacillating course with relation to the Dreyfus affair, se cured in some way a copy, the authenticity whereof is not impugned, of all the evidence taken in the new investigation conducted by the whole Court of Cassation. Whether moved by sympathy for the victim of injustice, or keenly impressed with the value of such news from the viewpoint of circulation, the Figuro decided to print the testimony in full, and has since given installments of it from day to day, finally summing up its effect with the skill and cogency of a practiced advocate. The practical result has been that every intelligent man in Paris, or, for that matter, throughout France, has had the opportunity of judging for himself whether DREYFUS was justly accused of betraying the secrets of the army. The French nation has been thus converted into a vast jury, and the signs are that a majority is now prepared to render a verdict of not guilty, and to approve cordially a judgment to that effect on the part of the Court of Cassation.

Assuming, as we now seem justified in assuming, that a majority of the Court of Cassation will not meet the wishes of the anti-revisionets we are still in doubt as to the precise form and purport of their judgment. Will the court simply de clare that the trial by court-martial was irregular, and that, consequently, its sentence must be set aside, but that DREYFUS should be brought back to France and ar raigned before a second military tribunal It is said that the form of Mme. DREYFUS'S petition unfortunately lends itself to such a decision, which involves, it will be observed, no explicit pronouncement regarding the guilt of the accused. Should the Court of Cassation's decision be limited in the technical way here indicated, there would be no end of the Drevfus case in sight, for the injured officer would not be satisfied with a pardon on the part of the Executive, unless this were coupled with the restoration of his rank in the army. For the tranquillity, dignity and good repute of the French people, it is to be hoped that the supreme tribunal will render a decision on the merits of the case, and, proclaiming the innocence of DREYFUS, order such reparation as the unfortunate victim of a detestable conspiracy is now capable of receiving.

#### The Crisis in South Africa

The coming conference between Presi-Jent KRUGER and the British High Commissioner in South Africa will take place, as was natural to expect, at Bloemfontein the capital of the Orange Free State. There the representatives of the opposing influences in South Africa will meet on neutral ground, and President KRCGER will have the advantage of being able to consult with President STEYN of the Orange Free State, with whom Sir ALFRED MILNER had a conference a short time back soon after his return from England. It is very probable that the President of the Free State will at some stage of the conference take part in the proceedings, the intimacy between the two republies having become so close that commissioners from the Transvaal are now at Bloemfontein arranging the terms of a reciprocal franchise between them; in other words, creating a common citizenship. A federal union, which was proposed a short time since by the Transvaal, was declared to be impracticable by President STEYN, until all doubt as to the question of suzerainty, claimed by Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, was set at rest. It is on this point that the delibera tions at Bloemfontein will turn either for

peace or war. President KRUGER and his Government contend that the claim of suzerainty is unfounded, and base their position on the declaration of Lord Derby in 1884, when negotiating the convention of that year, in

which he said: " By the omission of those articles of the conver tion of Pretoria, which assigned to her Majesty and to the British Resident certain specific powers and functions connected with the internal government and the foreign telations of the Transvaal State your Government will be left free to govern the country without interference and to conduct its diplomatic intercourse and shape its foreign policy fourth article of the new draft, that any treaty with foreign State shall not have effect without the ap proval of the Queen.

It is on this declaration that the Trans vaal bases its repudiation of vassalage to the British Crown, and it will be interesting to see by what arguments the British High Commissioner will get around it. There is no reason to believe that either side is desirous of proceeding to extremities, however anxious some hot-heads may be to precipitate a conflict; the effort will rather be to find a practical issue that will remove the race animosities engendered by the Jameson raid and free all South Africa from the disturbing influences that hinder progress and impede development. Something more than a mere modus vivendi is required and it should not be difficult to arrive at some settlement of the questions in dispute without unduly wounding the susceptibility of the Boers or impairing the dignity of the

British Crown. The British force at present in South Africa, without counting volunteers and local levies, is composed of two regiments of cavalry, seven battalions of infantry, three field and one mountain batteries, and two batteries of garrison artillery, with the usual auxiliary services; in all about nine thousand men. It is obvious that against the numbers which it is known the Boers can put into the field this small force is insufficient. Unless, therefore, very considerable reinforcements are despatched from England or elsewhere, it may be reasonably presumed that the present difficulties will be settled by negotiation, the more so that the great financial interests at stake in South Africa would be seriously

compromised by war. On the question of suzerainty bangs the real cause of all the trouble, namely, the granting of the franchise to the Uitlenders. the majority of whom are British subjects. They, as is reasonable while the question is legiance to the Queen, while foreigners of other nationalities are unwilling to divest themselves of the protection of their flags any moment come under direct British rule, which they do not desire. This division of sentiment among the Uitlanders is one of the complications that have to

the whole question of the relations between Great Britain and the independent Dutch States, and it is one on which the Transvaal Government depends to a great extent to weaken the resistance of the British element to its policy. The arrest of the alleged conspirators at Johan nesburg only makes public what information from the Transvaal for several months back indicated was going on, but as they are not officially recognized in any way their intentions, whatever they were, are not likely to interfere with the course of the negotiations between President KRU GER and Sir ALFRED MILNER, in which all South Africa is interested.

Brooklyn Borough Improvements. Some of the Brooklyn representatives in the Municipal Assembly have been subjected to what seems to be unwarranted censure because of their stand in "holding up" ordinances for improvements, to cost 2,000,000. Commissioner of Highways KEATING has proposed the issue of bonds to the amount of \$2,000,000 for pavements. and his reluctance, unwillingness or inability, when called upon to do so, to furnish a statement in detail of the streets and sections to be benefited by such expenditure of pub lic money, is the cause of the refusal of the Kings county minority to assent to the authorization requested. They are not without reason in their course.

Through the financial restrictions im posed by the debt limit, many imperative local improvements in Brooklyn were put off, awaiting consolidation. The delay in undertaking them was borne under the as surance that after consolidation Brooklyn would not be discriminated against. The report of the Commissioner of Highways shows that during the year 1898 the sum of \$1,922,000 was expended in paving and repaying in the borough of Manhattan whereas in the borough of Brooklyn, which needs new, more and better pavements de cidedly, the sum expended was only \$367. 000, though territorially the borough of Brooklyn is three times larger than is the borough of Manhattan, and of its 540 miles of paved streets Brooklyn has 240 of primitive cobblestones. In twenty-two of the thirty-four wards of Brooklyn, too, there are nearly 200 miles of streets wholly unpayed in the settled section of the town. The charter provision requiring the as

sent of three-quarters of the members of the Municipal Assembly in matters of pub lie expenditure had for its object the preservation of the rights of the minority bor oughs. If, counting on the provisions of the charter, the Brooklyn members are deter mined to enforce more equitable treatment of their own constituencies by withholding their votes, they cannot be accused of being unfaithful representatives. The successful operation of the New York charter is based upon an equitable administration toward each of the boroughs. The plan adopted by the Commissioner of Highways, who, unlike some of his predecessors in the same public work, is not a civil engineer, and who was at the time of his appointment without any expert knowledg on the subject of paving, is a practical de nial of the authority of the Municipal Assembly, a representative body, elected from the various localities, whose members are, presumably, acquainted with the requirements of their several constituencies. To refuse to surrender all discretion and authority in expenditure to a Commissioner not qualified by his training or his political extraction to discharge it intelligently or

impartially does not seem unwise. Brooklyn is increasing very rapidly in wealth and influence. Its material as well as political relations to New York demand closer and better communication. The extension of the several transit systems steam, electric, bridge and trolley, assures an improvement in the future, but the condition of the Brooklyn pavements is an ob stacle to the borough's growth and its representatives are justified in demanding for their constituents what no fair-minded administration should wish to withhold.

# Sam Jones's Dream.

Mayor Sam Jones of Toledo, a Socialist who has imagined himself to be a Republican, but who has denounced political parties as "hostile to free institutions and the liberties of the people" since the Republicans of Toledo have blighted his boom for Governor, has had a lovely dream. Last week he told it at the National Conference of Charities and Corrections. He began by assuming that "able-bodied men ever walk the streets alleys and highways of our country pleading for work." They ever walk in Populist and Democratic platforms. They walk in Jones's vision. Now, why should they walk? Why shouldn't they have bicycles, electric cabs, victorias? Let us have more wealth and less walking

Whereupon Jones: "RUSKIN says that the wealth of a nation may b estimated by the number of happy people employed in making useful things. Let us set the example of a State made wealthy according to this lofty concep tion; in short, let us apply ourselves to the task o insugurating and perfecting a just social system conceived and carried out upon scientific lines, and poverty crime, vice and human misery will be things of the past, and the prayer of our Lord will have been realized, and the kingdom of heaven will be set up here, and His will done on earth as it neaven.

So this is the programme of Jones at pres ent; the abolition of poverty, crime, vice and human misery. All these he can afford to have destroyed. But not humbug. That would be self-destruction.

## An Out-and-Out Plank.

According to the Columbus correspondent of the Cleveland Leader, whatever little differences and troubles there may be among some of the Republican politicians of Ohio, they are of one mind as to at least one plank of the platform to be adopted by the Republican State Convention:

"There is one thing on which all Republicans of every shade of factional belief are agreed. The con vention must adopt an anti-trust platform. Not milk-and-water affair with no real meaning, but a out and out plank with no ambiguous words and meaning just what it says. Every man of promi-nence who has spoken in regard to this, including State officials and caudidates, has declared himself positively in favor of such a step, and with the sentiment so unanimous, the vigor of the plank ought simply to be gauged by the ability of the committee framing it to find suitable words."

In spite of the impotence of the laws against trusts, the disposition to declaim against the latter in Legislatures and political platforms continues at boiling point. As the trusts are not harmed and the boilers are presumably assuaged by their eloquence, perhaps there is no solid ground of objection against their activity. The Republicans reproved trusts in 1888 and 1892, and in 1896 the reproof seems to be even more fashionable.

It seems to us, however, that trust-baiting should be entered upon very cautiously by a conservative party like the Republicans. Demagogy on all subjects relating Biver, opening communication, through section comprehended three Judges who be taken into account in dealing with to property and business is expected from

the Democrats. From the Republicans omething better is expected

When, for instance, the Committee on

Resolutions of the Ohio Republican convention comes to draft the declaration as to trusts, it might well avoid the blind sweeping dogmatism of most of the antitrust orators and laws. To denounce and prohibit all combinations for the purpose of affecting prices is not reasonable or honest. If by a combination such economy in the production and distribution of any article is attained that its price is lowered and millions of consumers are benefited thereby, it is not common sense to howl against that combination and that sort of combination and to propose pains and penalties against it simply because it has displaced a handful of middlemen. On the other hand, the combinations for putting up prices need no kick from the laws. Th noment those prices become really excessive and the profit secured by the combina tion is great competition reasserts itself and prices, or the trust that forced them up too far, must tumble.

While everybody is buying, and is glad to buy on account of their cheapness, things made by the trusts, it is essentially comic for politicians and newspapers to pretend to be in a fever against these combinations Somebody is squeezed in all business. In the case of the trusts that somebody is not the consumer. Consequently his interest in the throwing of paper wads at them by the speechmakers and the platform maker is next to nothing. Still, he doesn't grudge them their cheap talk so long as he has his cheap goods.

As the confusion caused in the Repub ican politics of New York by the Franchise Tax bill is deplorable, it is greatly to be hope that it may be removed by the bill's amend

The young man in the graduating class at Harvard who has announced as the programme of his post-collegiate career his re olve to "do nothing but spend money." ma have some good financial ideas, no matter hor ingenuously he expresses them. His plan has occurred to many other young men, but i seldom carried out, probably on account of the difficulty of getting the money. There was hope at one time that the Populists would succeed n bringing about a "per capity" arrangemen by which everybody could know exactly how nuch money he was entitled to and go and spend it. But the flower of Populist thought seems to have withered. Even the passion for poor money has abated. The great anti-work novement has not been successful, and Gen Coxey himself is one of the most industrious of philosophers. Probably Tammany Hall is the nain confidence of those who wish to do noth ing but spend money; and even in Tammany he soft things are not for everybody.

## Advice to a Stutterer.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Replying o Dugald Bannatyne's letter in Sunday's Sun I wish to say the quickest and best way to cure one's self of stuttering is not to begin to talk until one can say what he wishes to say. Wait This I know, not from practical experience

This I know, not from practical experience, but from being associated more or less with those who have stuttered. A young man I knew practically cured himself in a few months by this method of procedure.

When he came in to report on some errand, if he could not talk without stuttering, he would stand before the one he was trying to talk to and wait until he could. Sometimes he would stand for five minutes without saying a word and then he would say what he wished to say without stuttering. At first there was some hesitation between words, but in a short time this was overcome and one would not think to hear him talk that he was ever a stuttering. Never mind what folks think, Mr. Bannatyne. If you find you are going to stutter you thave a desire or it is necessary for you to speak out. May 21.

## "Search the Scriptures."

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: It surprise Sheahan of Pocantico Hills, unaware of the fact that the Bereaus are praised in Acts zvii., verse 11, be-cause they "searched the Scriptures daily, whether hese things were so." While agreeing with the Catholic Church that some parts of Scriptur not be read by children or immature minds, I can not forget that the whole history of the modern de elopment of freedom of thought depends upon the grandest triumph of the Reformation, the translaion of the Bible by Coverdale, Tyndall, King James and Luther. CHRIS. DENE.

The Rev. Dr. Stuart Prayed for the Pres

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT: I distinctly heard the Rev. J. Noblock Stuart in his sermon a the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church yesterday pray for the President. Your reporter, who re ported him as not doing so, evidently was in a place where he could hear but imperfectly.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In looking over the dramatic column of one of the leading lailies this morning I was somewhat surprised

read the following paragraph:
"A performance of Ibsen's terrible play, 'Ghosts,
is also promised for next week, with John Blair is also promised for next week, with John Blair, lately associated with Miss Marlowe, as the paretic youth who cries for the moon."

A notice of this kind cannot fall to pain any true lover of Ibean, for not only is it flippant in the extreme, but it also shows (in the substitution of the word moon for sun) a surprising ignorance of the great Norse genius in a man who is regarded as one of the foremost dramatic critics of New York.

The error might pass unnoticed were it not for the fact that the subject of conversation between Oswida and his mother just previous to his going lusane was the riving of the sun. How can the dramas of Ibsen ever succeed if the papers do not support them, and how can they support that which they do not know?

New BRIGHTON, S. I., May 21.

NEW BRIGHTON, S. I., May 21.

#### Profits of Southern Mills. From the Atlanta Constitution.

GREENVILLE, S. C., May 19.—The annual meetings of the various cotton mills in this section are about over and they show unprecedented profits. For in-stance, the American Spinning Company, capital \$135,000, shows net profit of \$37,000; the Pied nont mills, over \$125,900; the Huguenot mills, \$63. 000, and others in like proportion. Now while these profits seem large, the profit for the current year will be much larger. The Poe mill, which m \$24,000 for twelve months last year, is now making \$6,000 per month net.

This prosperity will add many spindles to the mills of the Bouth. Already the stock for a \$600, 000 mill at Anderson, S. C., has been raised and Col. James L. Orr, President of the Piedmont mills, will be President and Treasurer. A 25,000-spindle in charge of Capt. E. A. Smyth.

Possibly the easiest thing in the world to do now in this section is to raise a half million dollars to build a cotton mill. All of them have paid good dividends and there is all confidence in the future, certainly so far as this year is concerned. There are other evi dences of prosperity as well as the thrift of the cot-ton mills. One banking institution in this city has voluntarily reduced its rate of interest from 8 to 7 per cent. There are less farm loans than ever before in the history of the country.

# Neglect of Baptism in London. From a Pamphlet by the Rev. Dr. Frederick G. Lee, London. In London, both south and north of the Thames.

statistics of baptisms afford poor and sad results The endrayor to liberate religion from all doctrina bonds is doing its deadly work. Within the parish of St. Pancras, for example—in cluding twenty-three parish churches and the

Foundling Hospital Chapel-out of every hundred children born only nineteen are reported to have been baptized.

In the west-Paddington, Kensington, Notting Hill, Brompton and Hammersmith-twenty-two in fants from every hundred born annually are bap tized.
In Westminster the highest average for three suc

ceeding years was twenty baptisms in a hundred In the north of London the average was seventeen baptisms in a hundred births at seven of the older churches.

The same average of baptisms to births is arrived at in South London at seventy-one churches, all.

MARCHAND'S MISSION ENDED.

The Great Work That Has Won for Him

the Homage of His Country. Major Marchand and his expedition arrived at Jiboutil, near the south end of the Red Sea, on Tuesday, May 1d. Three years, lacking four days, had elapsed since he embarked at Bordeaux on a mission of great political import. A French man-of-war will take him and his gallant comrades home, where they will receive the greatest welcome and honors a na tion can give to its heroes. The story of those three years in the African bush would win the plaudits of all men who admire unfaltering courage and great achievements. As a tour de force, nothing in African pioneering has surliantly successful, for though the French flag does not wave through the Upper Nile Valley, the dream that sent Marchand to Africa and spurred him on to Fashoda, the vantage ground he won and maintained there, gave to France the splendid prize of the Central Soudan when she settled accounts with England. After all. France is ringing with Marchand's praises no more for the outcome than, for the hard, plodding, almost superhuman work that led to it.

Marchand and his party were in Africa iong

before the world guessed what France meant to do with her new expedition. The Khalifa was supreme in the Egyptian Soudan. It was two and a third years before Kitchener over threw the Mahdist régime. It was given out for a year that Marchand was to explore and occupy France's new possessions on the Upper Mobangi affluent of the Congo. His real purpose was to cross the water parting into the Nile basin, launch his two gunboats and his fleet of canoes on the Nile and carry down to Fashoda. not to Khartoum, a force so strong in men and equipment that he might defy the Mandist power and claim for France the abandoned provinces of Egypt. He was to have ample cooperation. Two expeditions, leaving the Red Sea, were cross southern Abyssinia and meet him on the Nile. Col. Liotard, the Governor of the Upper Mobangi district, was to collect and train 3,000 native soldiers, to join him in his escent of the Nile, equipped with munitions Marchand would bring them. The great project, therefore, was to be carried out by the opperation of four distinct expeditions, Marchand leading the way and the others adding to his strength at the time he needed all the men he could muster. The fact that Marchand finally reached the goal, not with the powerful auxillaries promised him but with a single gunboat and a few score of Senegalese soldiers only augmented the merit of his persons achievement. The project was not a fizzle, but as events turned out, was a brilliant suc cess. He reached the place he had been aim ing for two years to attain and he held it unti he was able to depart with full honor and to the aggrandizement of his country.

Never was the secret of a great enterprise better kept. It was auspected, but it was not actually known until the fall of 1897, that Marchand's destination was the Nile. About eight months later he was at Fashoda. Most of the stupendous difficulties in his way had been met and overcome before the fact was common property that he was in the Nile Valley at all, and he found on the journey some of the toughest nuts to crack that ever confronted pioneer in an untrodden field. On July 23, 1806, the leader, with eighteen

officers and sub-officers of the French Army and Navy, a doctor, an interpreter and 150 native soldiers of Senegal, landed on the West African coast. It was over seven months later March 1, 1897, before he reached Brazzaville. on Stanley Pool, with his very large equip ment and was ready to steam up the river of his way to the Nile. He carried in sections the two gunboats, Faidherbe and Le Nil, and a dozen steel and aluminum barges. His seriou difficulties did not begin until he was far on his way and on the threshold of the unknown at he mouth of the Bomu affluent of the Mobang! It was desired to use this river as the route toward the Nile, but no one knew whether it was a practicable waterway. On May 1, 1807, some of the officers started on wenty days' survey of the hydrography of the lower part of the river. They found a series of five high falls and thirty smaller ones, extending for a long distance up the stream, by above the region of cataracts there appeared o be fair navigation. The situation was almost desperate, but Marchand promptly decided that the route must be up that river. Around the series of falls he built roads thirty feet in width, on which he laid trunks of treesstripped of their bark and smoothed so that the boats might be hauled over them. Then he launched his boats and barges on the river, and when one of the falls was reached they were hauled out of the river and past the obstrucion with 1,700 to 1,800 men at the towrones It took two months to pass the falls, and there was still great anxlety as to their further progess, for unless the upper river was navigable there was about 300 miles of mountain, raines, forests and marshes that must be crossed before the flotilla could be launched in water eading to the Nile.

Two thousand men supplied by Liotard, with expeditionary stores on their backs, had been sent by the land route past the cataract region with instructions to ascertain the navigability of the upper river. All the natives said there were no canoes in that region and the boats could not be floated. The outlook was gloomy ndeed until messengers came back with the oyous news, just as Marchand was emerging from the cataracts, that the river was deep and smooth above the falls. The expedition then followed the Borm and its affluent, the Boku. o within forty-five miles of the Nile basin Marchand had come from Brazzaville, on Staney Pool, 2.064 miles, by Congo waterways.

The next thing to do was to determine the nearest point of navigation in the Nile basin n order to connect the two points by the hortest overland route. Marchand set out to settle this important problem. He reached the and that into the large Bahr el Ghazal tributary of the Nile. He descended the Such till he seme to the point where his flotills might be launched. Then he florred down the stream for about 200 miles, finding a clear waterway for his gunboats. He was only three days descending the rapid stream, but it took him thirteen days to pull back to his starting point. He had discovered that his equipment, weigh ing some hundreds of thousands of pounds. must be carried through the scrub a distance of ninety-nine miles to the Such. The gunboats, the barges, the baggage and stores were transported over this difficult route. piece by piece, on the backs of some thousands of porters. In November, 1897, the expedition reached the navigable waters leading to the Nile. Meanwhile Capt. Baraties had followed the watercourses all the way to the Nile and found them navigable, but he returned with some exceedingly unpleasant news. He had been unable to buy food, and had lived on the smoked meat he had with him and roots he had gathered on the way.

Marchand had thousands of men in his expedition, and he scoured the country far and near to replenish his waning food supplies. The effort was almost fruitless, and it was soon apparent that most of the party must return o the Upper Mobangi or starve. Marchand however, was not to be defeated in his attempt to reach Fashoda. He started most of his men to the west and set out himself with a gunboat and 150 soldiers for the north and the Nile. He hoped he might find at Fashoda the expeditions of Bonchamps and Clochette that were to co-operate with him from Jiboutil and Abyssinia. They never arrived and it devolved on him alone to occupy the town, to fire upon the only Dervish boat that came within reach of his guns and to keep the French flag waving on the Nile till it was lowered without wounding French susceptibilities. Everybody knows of his triumphal prograss to the Indian Ocean and the hearty welcome he received in Abyssinia; and now he is going home on a warship to be feted and halled by all France as one of the nation's heroes. and Abyssinia. They never arrived and it de

Jones of Toledo to Run for Governor of

From the Cincinnati Enquirer

Mayor Jones of Totedo will be a candidate for Governor of Ohio on an independent ticket. That may be set down as a fact. He has said as much himself to the Enquirer.

VOLUNTEERS FROM MANILA.

Arrangements for Their Comfort on the

Voyage Home and After Their Arrival. WASHINGTON, May 22.-Final arrangements are being made by direction of Secretary Alger for the home-coming of the volunteer troops now in the Philippines. It is proposed to give them every comfort possible, both on the voyage from Manila and after their arrival in this country. With this object in view, Secretary Alger recently had a conference with Quartermaster-General Luddington, Surgeon-General Sternberg and Commissary-General Weston. Gen. Luddington reported that his department would provide everything needed in the way of transportation and equipment. Gen. Weston said that the commissary depots are well supplied with food for sick and convalescents, and Gen. Sternberg explained what would be done

by the Modical Department Reports from Gen. Otis indicate that there will be nearly 2.500 sick to leave the islands. It is very probable that many of these men will be convalescent before arrival at San Francisco. As far as possible, the hospital ships will be used to bring home the more seriously ill and badly wounded. The Relief is now at Manila and fully prepared to bring home about 250 patients, and the Missouri, now fitting out at New York, will sail for Manila shortly,

Nearly all the troops will be brought to San Francisco, and Secretary Alger has directed Gen, Shafter at that place to fully prepare for their reception. This order was issued to-day. It is signed by Col. Carter, Assistant Adjutant-General:

"The Secretary of War directs that you establish a model camp at the Presidio, to actablish a model camp at the Presidio, to accommodate about 4,000 volunteers from Manila, pending their muster out. Make ample provision for water supply and sanitary features, to the end that the camp may be comfortable and healthful. Bedsacks to be furnished if you think advisable. Returning troops will leave their tents at Manila, but will bring field ranges and cooking outfits. Depot Quartermasters will furnish necessary tents.

It has not yet been determined to have all the troops mustered out at San Francisco. It will be left to them to decide. Secretary Alger has received a number of requests from Governors of States asking that the regiments be sent to their places of muster to be discharged, but it is not certain that this will be done. Gen. Otis has been asked to ascertain the wishes of the men, and Secretary Alger will be governed accordingly. It is considered to the advantage of the men to be mustered out at point of arrival, as each soldier will be entitled to the amount of his transportation from that place to his home. At least two of the regiments will not go to San Francisco. It is proposed to send the Oregon volunteers to Vancouver Barracks and the Washington regiment to Seattle, Wash. The Quartermaster's Department has provided tentage and clothing for troops going to those places and every comfort will be given them.

At San Francisco Gen. Shafter will establish a camp, which it is the jutention of the War Department shall exceed Camp Wikoff in its arrangement. There is now under construction at the Presidio a general hospital, which will accommodate about tive hundred patients, and Surgeon-tieneral Sternberg has assigned Lieut-Col. Girard, who was Chief Surgeon of the Second Army Corps, to take entire charge of it and put everything in readiness for the siek soldiers from Manila. Dr. Medice, Superintendent of the Army Nurse Corps, has twenty-one nurses on an reserved list to be sent there should occasion arise.

The Commissary Department will provide delicacies for use on the transports and commodate about 4,000 volunteers from Manila, pending their muster out.

NEW HOME FOR WORKING GIRLS. Formal Opening of the Fine Institution

Founded by the Baroness de Hirsch The Clara de Hirsch Home for Working Girls was formally opened yesterday. This home, which is one of the Baroness de Hirsch's many philanthropies, is on Sixty-third street between Second and Third avenues. It is a handsome, five-story, white-stone building, 125 feet wide and 100 feet deep, equipped throughout, from kitchen to roof garden, with the latest improvements and admirably calculated to provide

working girls with the advantages of a good About a year ago the Baroness de Hirsch suggested to Oscar Straws, United States Ambassador to Turkey, the plan of a home for immigrant girls coming to this country who were unable to secure employment at once. Shortly after she intrusted Mr. Straus with an endowment fund of \$200,000 to be used for this purpose. Little time was lost in putting the plan in execution. Estimates were submitted and

pose. Little time was lost in putting the plan in execution. Estimates were submitted and the work of construction began, while a number of woment who volunteered to take charge of the work established a temporary home at 208 Second avenue. The new building cost \$100,000.

Originally the Baroness de Hirsch intended to make the institution a home for immigrant girls only, but hearing of the progress of the work, she decided to broaden its scope and open the home to all respectable working girls and women, either residents or immigrants, who are dependent on their own exertions for a livelihood. With this end in view, arrangements were made to give the inmates a thorough training in domestic service, including cooking and sewing, to enable them to find places in families instead of going into factories and sweatshops. Instruction in millinery, typewriting and stenography will also be given. A worker who does not earn more than \$6 a week can board at the home and have all its privileges for \$3 a week, while those who are unable to pay can live there free of charge. The inmates will have at their disposal a large library, parlors, music and club rooms, besides recitation rooms and rooms where they will receive instruction in manual training. The home can accommodate a hundred girls.

Several days ago the Board of Managers were informed by cable that the Baroness de Hirsch had bequeathed in her will an additional \$60,000 to the institution. This, with the remainder of the original fund, will be used in maintaining the home.

# W. W. ASTOR'S PERSONAL TAX.

It Is Said That Tammany Will Try to Collect It and Make Him Go to the Courts. President Feitner said yesterday that the

Tax Commissioners had not acted on the application of William Waldorf Astor to have his personal property tax assessment of \$0.000 .. 00 vacated on the ground that he is a nonresident. Asked when the board would pass upon the matter formally, he said he could not tell. He said that the application would probably be denied because Mr. Astor had admitted the jurisdiction of the Tax Commissioners by appearing before them when sent for. Mr. Astor made an affidavit in England that he was a non-resident, and it was presented to Mr. Feitner by Charles A. Peabody, Jr., Mr. Astor's attorney in this city. Mr. Feitner was not satisfied with its contents and he sent for Mr. Astor so that he could be cross-examined. Mr. Astor answered the summons by appearing In person before President Feitner, and he was questioned under eath by Assistant District Attorney Ward. Afterward Mr. Ward said that in his opinion the assessment would have to be vacated. Mr. Feitner said the same thing and reiterated the statement several times recently. Just what brought about this sudden change in his opinion is not known. If the Tax Commissioners refuse to vacate the assessment Mr. Astor will have to go to the courts to establish the fact that he is a non-resident and not liable for personal taxes in this city. The amount involved is between 180,000 and \$10,000 \$40,000 of which is for last year's personal property taxes. ably be denied because Mr. Astor had admitted last year's personal property taxes.

NO STATE AID FOR DEWEY WELCOME.

Mayor Frowns on a Proposition of the Municipal Assembly Committee. The joint committee appointed by the Coun-

cil and the Aldermen to aid in the arrangements for the reception to Admiral Dewey when he arrives in this port met with a rebuff yesterday. The committee held a meeting in the morning and decided that it would be a good thing to ask the State to help pay the expenses of the celebration, which are estimated at \$150,000. Then the members went to the Mayor and asked him to approve the plan. Their idea was to ask Gov. Roosevelt to send a message to the Legislature on the subject. The Mayor refused flatly to approve the plan. He said New York city was big enough to run the celebration without the aid of the State. As a matter of fact it is not likely that the Municipal Assembly will be allowed to have anything to say about arranging for the reception to Admiral Dewey. The work will probably all be done by sub-committees of the Citizens' Committee which is to be appointed by the Mayor. Until this committee is appointed no definite arrangements will be made. penses of the celebration, which are estimated